



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Moab District
P. O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 845323480
U-0147570
(U-065c)

RECEIVED

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DIVISION OF
COAL & MININGCERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
Certification No. P 084 852 745Mr. Glen A. Zumwalt
Vice President/General Manager
Utah Fuel Company - Skyline
P.O. Box 719
Helper, Utah 84526

RE: Minor Modification to the Skyline Mine No. 3 - Relocating Setup Room and Bleeder Entries for the 5th Right Longwall Panel

Dear Mr. Zumwalt:

On May 5, 1993, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a telephone request from Utah Fuel Company (UFC) to modify the approved resource recovery and protection plan (R2P2) for the Skyline Mine No. 3. A formal written request for the minor modification was received on May 6, 1993. Price Coal Office personnel inspected the mine, evaluated the situation, and then granted a verbal approval to UFC for a minor modification to the approved mine plan on May 17, 1993. UFC also submitted additional information regarding this mine plan change on May 18, 1993. The affected coal reserves are located in the Lower O'Connor-A Seam on Federal coal lease U-0147570.

The approved mining plan was to develop setup room and bleeder entries for the 5th Right longwall panel between #69 and #71 crosscuts of the 5th Right Headgate (see Enclosure 1). UFC is now proposing to develop the setup room and bleeder entries between #65 and #68 crosscuts. UFC also proposes to mine the block of coal between #68 and #71 crosscuts from the 3rd Right bleeder entries utilizing room-and-pillar mining practices (see Enclosure 2).

According to UFC, the 5th Right Headgate in the Skyline Mine No. 3 has encountered a fault with a highly fractured zone. The fault would cross through the originally planned setup room for the 5th Right longwall panel. Unstable roof and unexpected high stress conditions encountered in the vicinity of this fault preclude the development of the setup room which requires an entry width of 28 feet.

The 5th Right Headgate was inspected by the BLM on May 6, 1993. A fault with 8 feet of vertical displacement was observed in the #3 entry at #66.8 crosscut. In this entry, an igneous dike approximately 4 inches thick has merged with the fault. This dike has increased to 2 feet thick in the #2 entry at #67 crosscut and the fault was 20 feet in by the dike. Developing the #1 entry was stopped after intersecting the dike at #67.6 crosscut. Fault gouge had flowed from the ceiling leaving a large cavity with weak roof. Heavy duty strap mats and trusses were added for additional roof support in main entries and intersections.

A second inspection was conducted on May 17, 1993, while UFC was developing a room along the fault line at #67 crosscut. During the inspection, signs of heavy loading in this area were indicated by rib rolling, roof cutters and bent roof bolt baring plates. Severe bouncing also occurred during the inspection.

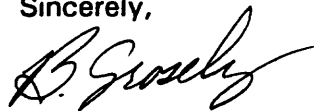
Based on the BLM's observations in the mine, the fault will intersect the originally planned setup room for the 5th Right longwall panel. Developing the setup room and bleeder entries in the vicinity of this fault could trigger additional bouncing which would seriously endanger employees and mining equipment. In addition, the 28 feet required for the setup room will further de-stabilize the roof. Recovering the remaining reserves in this block with a continuous miner from the 3rd Right bleeder entries will result in maximum coal recovery.

Therefore, the BLM authorizes UFC to develop the setup room and bleeder entries for the 5th Right longwall panel between #65 and #68 crosscuts of the 5th Right Headgate as requested. This confirms the verbal approval given to Utah Fuel Company personnel on May 17, 1993. In addition, UFC will develop (first mining only) the remaining reserves in the block of coal between #68 and #71 crosscuts from the formerly approved 3rd Right bleeder entries by room-and-pillar mining methods. The modified plan will reduce the recoverable coal reserves in this section of the mine by 40,000 tons.

The BLM has determined that the mine plan change is in compliance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the regulations at 43 CFR 3480, the lease terms and stipulations, and will achieve maximum economic recovery of the Federal coal. A copy of the approved mine map is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please contact Abe Elias in the Price Coal Office at 801/637-4584.

Sincerely,

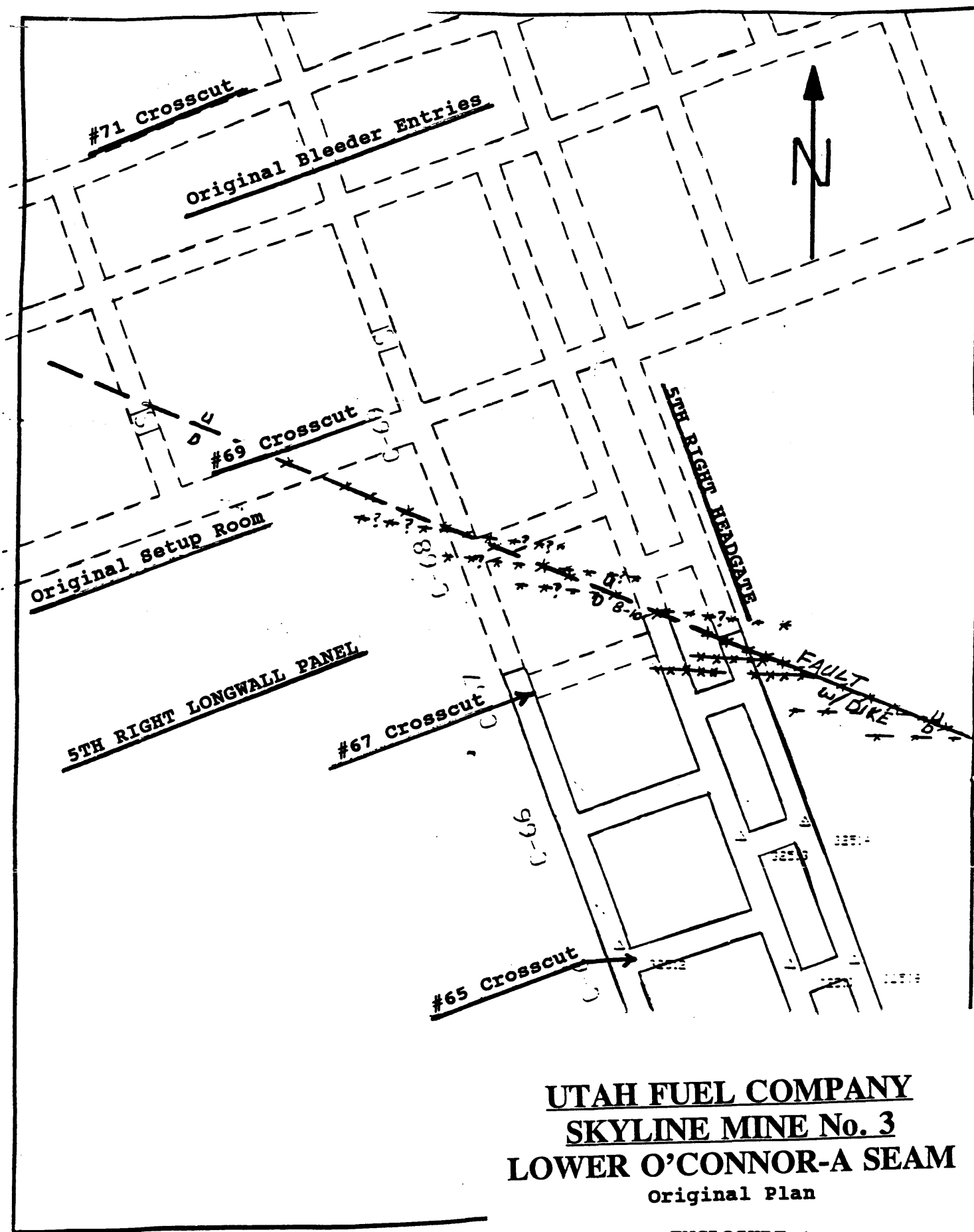


for Assistant District Manager
Mineral Resources

2 Enclosures

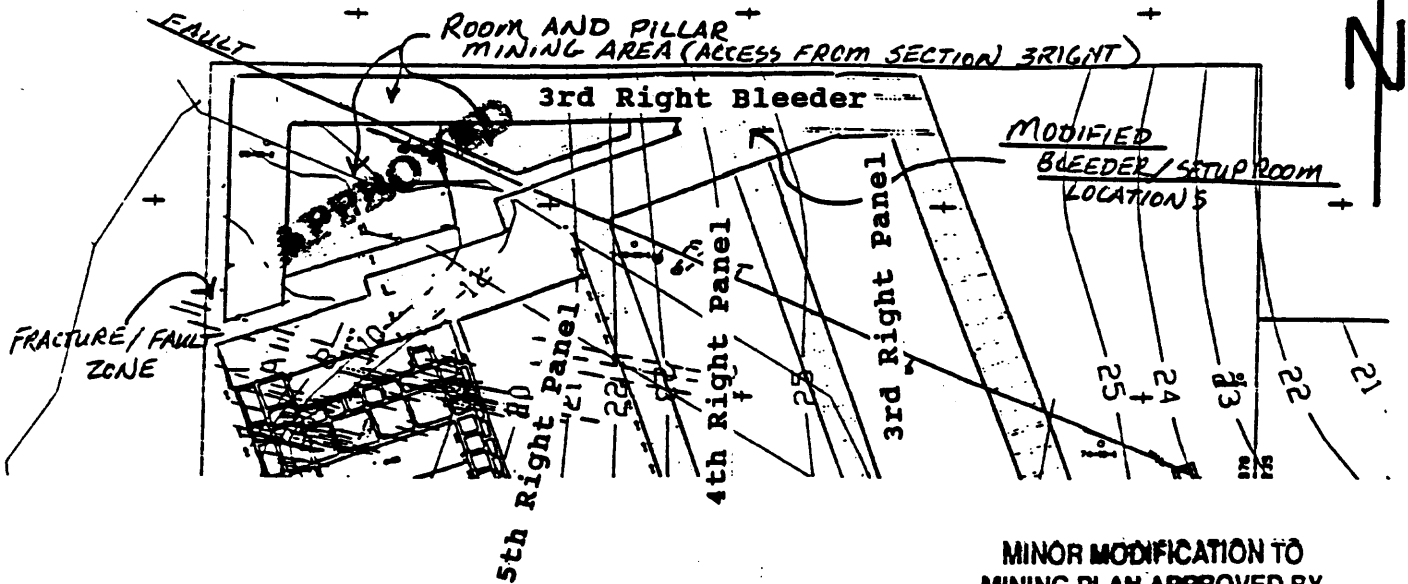
1. Original Mine Map (1p)
2. Approved Mine Map (1p)

cc: DM, Moab (U-065) (w/enclosure)
SD, Utah (U-921) (w/enclosure)
UDOGM, Salt Lake City (w/enclosure)✓



UTAH FUEL COMPANY
SKYLINE MINE No. 3
LOWER O'CONNOR-A SEAM
Original Plan

ENCLOSURE 1



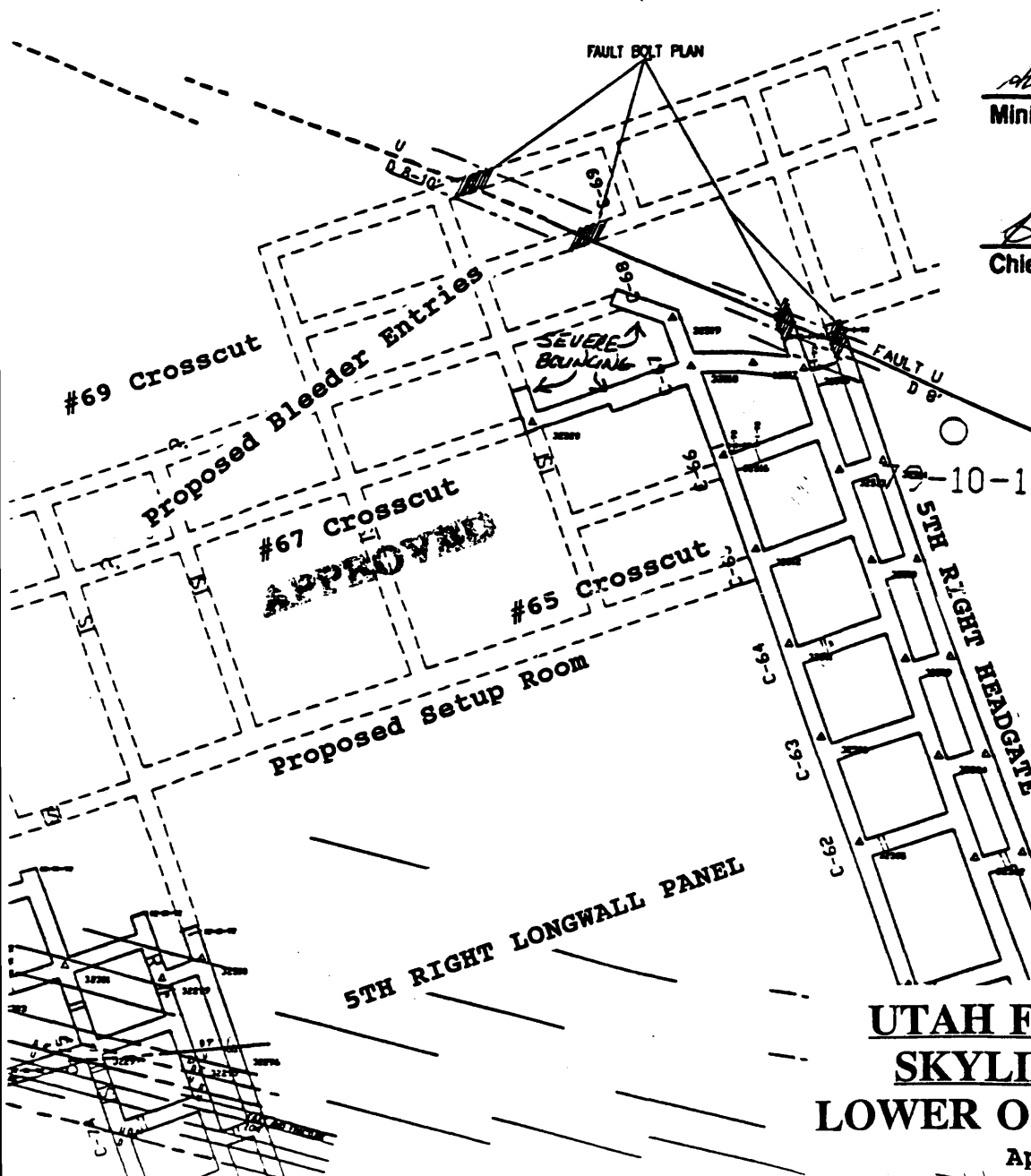
MINOR MODIFICATION TO
MINING PLAN APPROVED BY
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Recommended By:

Adella M. Fles
Mining Engineer (Date)

Approved By:

B. (unclear) (unclear) 6/9/93
Chief, Price Coal Office (Date)



ENCLOSURE 2

UTAH FUEL COMPANY
SKYLINE MINE No. 3
LOWER O'CONNOR-A SEAM
Approved Plan